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Public Health Service by Dr. T. Tharaldsen, of Portland. The unqualified success of this company in ridding its bunkhouse of bedbugs by means of steam is particularly interesting because of the size of the building and the large number of rooms it contains.

The bunkhouse is a T-shaped building of 70 rooms, each 10 by 12 feet, and has an 8-foot hallway running the full length of each wing. It is of ordinary frame construction, with 2 by 4 inch studding, ceiled with $\frac{5}{8}$ -inch ceiling, and is of rustic finish outside. The building is heated by steam which is supplied by the mill boiler plant. The heating system consists of radiators in the halls and four $1\frac{1}{2}$ -inch pipes running the full length of the building and exposed in each room. These pipes are tapped in each room with a $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch tap and plugged with an ordinary pipe plug.

In heating the building the pressure in the steam pipes is reduced by means of a reducing valve to 10 or 12 pounds to the square inch; but in steaming to superheat the building to kill the bedbugs the reducing valve is opened and the pressure is increased to 80 or 100 pounds. The windows and doors are shut, but no attempt is made to calk any of the cracks. Articles which might be injured by steam are removed, but all bedding, mattresses, and clothing are left in the rooms. The plugs in each room are opened and the valves on the radiators in the halls are turned on. It requires about two hours to raise the temperature of the building to 160° F. This temperature is then held for approximately three hours. After the steaming, a great many of the dead bugs are found on the floors and under the beds.

In the first trial made it was found that a temperature of about 150° F. killed all the bugs in sight, but in this trial only one room at a time was steamed and this method failed to get the bugs between the walls and those deeply imbedded in the mattresses. The method of steaming all of the rooms at the same time proved more effective.

The company states that two months after the steaming no signs of bedbugs had been found, and that it is the intention to steam the bunkhouse three or four times a year.

THE BOYLSTON MEDICAL PRIZES.

Boylston medical prizes, which are open to public competition, are offered for the best dissertation on questions in medical science proposed by the Boylston Medical Committee.

At the annual meeting held in Boston in 1916, a prize of \$300 was awarded to an essay entitled "Studies of the Streptococcus of Smith," by Wilson G. Smillie, of Cambridge, Mass.

For 1919 there is offered a prize of \$300 and the Boylston Prize Medal for the best dissertation on the results of original research in medicine, the subject to be chosen by the writer. The Boylston

Prize Medal will be added to the money prize only in case the winning essay shows special originality in the investigations detailed.

In awarding these prizes, preference will be given to dissertations which exhibit original work; but if no dissertation is considered worthy of a prize, the award may be withheld.

Each dissertation must bear in place of the author's name, some sentence or device, and must be accompanied by a sealed packet bearing the same sentence or device, and containing the author's name and residence within.

Any clew by which the authorship of a dissertation is made known to the committee will debar such dissertation from competition.

Dissertations must be printed or typewritten, and their pages must be bound in book form.

All unsuccessful dissertations are deposited with the secretary, from whom they may be obtained, with the sealed packet unopened, if called for within one year after they have been received.

By an order adopted in 1826, the secretary was directed to publish annually the following votes:

1. That the board does not consider itself as approving the doctrines contained in any of the dissertations to which premiums may be adjudged.
2. That, in case of publication of a successful dissertation, the author be considered as bound to print the above note in connection therewith.

Dissertations entered for this prize must be in the hands of the secretary, Dr. H. C. Ernst, Harvard Medical School, Boston, Mass., on or before December 31, 1919.

The Boylston Medical Committee is appointed by the President and Fellows of Harvard College, and consists of the following: Dr. William F. Whitney, chairman; Dr. Harold C. Ernst, secretary; Dr. William T. Porter; Dr. Edward H. Nichols; Dr. Reid Hunt; Dr. Henry A. Christian, and Dr. Joan Warren.

The secretary of the committee, Dr. Harold C. Ernst, states that a similar announcement of prizes will be made for 1920.

"TO-DAY'S WORLD PROBLEM IN DISEASE PREVENTION."

The United States Public Health Service has recently published a 136-page book on venereal diseases, entitled "To-day's World Problem in Disease Prevention." It is a popular, nontechnical discussion of syphilis and gonorrhea by Dr. John H. Stokes, Chief of the Section of Dermatology and Syphilology of the Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minn.

A limited number of copies of this book are now available, and until the supply is exhausted a copy will be sent to anyone who can use it advantageously. Applications should be made by letter addressed to the Surgeon General, United States Public Health Service, 228 First Street N. W., Washington, D. C.